

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING DOUG WARNER

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to honor and recognize an outstanding citizen of Germantown, Tennessee, Mr. Doug Warner.

For the past 22 years, Doug has volunteered for the Mountain Tennessee Outreach Project (T.O.P.) which attends to the spiritual, physical, emotional or social needs of rural Tennessee residents. Doug has led more than 50 trips to the counties in Tennessee this organization aids and brought much comfort to those families in distress. Doug has also been there in times of tragedy by collecting and distributing supplies to aid in the recovery efforts after natural disasters such as the Ivan, Katrina and Rita hurricanes.

Besides his work with Mountain T.O.P., Doug has organized numerous other volunteer projects in order to help the lives of his fellow citizens and make his community better. Through his service on the Habitat for Humanity Board, Doug has sponsored and built more than 29 Habitat houses as well as collecting donated furniture and accessories to help these families to a new beginning. Doug and his family continue to be an active part of the Germantown United Methodist Church.

Through this service and countless other accomplishments, the quality of life of many Tennesseans has been greatly improved because of Doug's leadership, experience and willingness to give. Congratulations to Mr. Doug Warner on being named Citizen of the Year 2008 by the Germantown, Tennessee Lions Club.

MARY KELLIGREW KASSLER: 25  
YEARS OF HER BEST

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, after 25 years of extraordinary service in the WIC Program, Mary Kelligrew Kassler is retiring. I know literally no one who has worked harder to make this the kind of country that we all want to live in. Her dedication to providing needed assistance at the critical time in their lives to lower-income women and their children is unsurpassed.

I will personally miss her as a source of absolutely reliable advice in this area. She combined a zeal for the important work she was doing with a balanced outlook and a realistic understanding of how to get things done that made her an advisor on whom I could always rely without any question.

For 25 years Mary Kelligrew Kassler has exemplified public service in a critical area.

Madam Speaker, I hope that young people contemplating careers will learn about the extraordinary work she did and that she will be, at least for some, a role model.

## HONORING CENTRAL CALIFORNIA HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce upon the celebration of their 25th anniversary. The anniversary will be celebrated on Friday March 13, 2009 in Fresno, California.

In 1983 a small, influential group of Hispanic business owners in the Fresno area came together and identified a need for a business organization that was aimed toward growing and developing Hispanic owned businesses. The leaders began to develop strong ties to the California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Together they built the foundation and began to gather support from local businesses and leaders to form the Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (CCHCC). Under the leadership of Hugo Morales, Carmen Navarro, Jo Ann Orijel, the late Albert Ramirez, Jorge Acuna, David Mendoza, Rose Molina, and others, the CCHCC was formed.

The focus for the first couple of years was to become incorporated, obtain non-profit status, to expand and cover the Central Valley and to create by-laws and establish a board of directors. This was accomplished by 1985. The CCHCC further gained momentum when State Center Community College District, California State University, Fresno, Pepsi-Cola and other corporations pledged their support. These early supporters help catapult CCHCC into becoming a viable business organization.

Today, CCHCC is involved in addressing the quality of life for the Hispanic community. The CCHCC has hosted several events to promote and revitalize local Hispanic businesses and boost the economy for the entire Central Valley.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on 25 years of business. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing CCHCC many years of continued success.

## CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

### HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a significant milestone for a pres-

tigious institution of higher learning in my state of Oklahoma. Northeastern State University, located in Tahlequah, is turning 100 years old this month.

Founded in 1909, Northeastern State University has been a center of learning and excellence for thousands of Oklahomans.

One hundred years ago this month, Governor Charles Haskell signed the document creating Northeastern State Normal School on the site of the former Cherokee National Female Seminary. Since that day, NSU has become a highly regarded academic institution and the fourth largest university in the state of Oklahoma.

With a student body of more than 9,000, NSU brings a broad swath of diversity to the learning environment. 29% of the students who attend Northeastern State are self-identified Native Americans.

NSU offers degree programs in four academic colleges and is home to Oklahoma's only College of Optometry.

On the athletic field, things look just as promising for Northeastern. NSU is a member of the NCAA Division II LoneStar Conference and fields teams in basketball, baseball, football, golf, soccer, softball and tennis.

In these times of limited educational dollars, it is important for the United States Congress to remember the local and regional universities that educate so many of our citizens. Northeastern State University is an enormous asset to eastern Oklahoma and I come to the floor today to honor all they do.

Happy Birthday Northeastern State University!

## EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the FY 2009 Omnibus.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service, SGR

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Citrus Mutual

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 89, Lakeland, FL 33802

Description of Request: I have secured \$1,217,000 for Florida Citrus Mutual. The funding will be used to improve technologies for treatment and detection, methods of movement and containment, and means to control and eliminate these devastating citrus diseases. After two unprecedented, devastating hurricane seasons in 2004 and 2005, APHIS determined in January 2006 that eradicating citrus canker from Florida is no longer feasible. As a result, the scientific community

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

work is working to find disease resistance and/or a cure for these diseases. In addition, in 2005, USDA-Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA-APHIS) detected citrus greening in Florida. Greening is another severe citrus disease that must be addressed to ensure the sustainability of the industry. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Justice, OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alachua County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 12 SE 1st Street, Gainesville, FL 32602

Description of Request: I have secured \$550,000 for Alachua County, FL. The funding will be used by Alachua County to manage offenders with co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders. Alachua County proposes an integrated, coordinated continuum of care using evidence-based practices where there will be “no wrong door” to enter treatment. Persons will be assessed and provided with a level of treatment consistent with individual need. This innovative approach could prove to be an effective keystone to alleviate jail overcrowding by reducing the recidivism rate that is prevalent with offenders suffering from a mental illness compounded by drug abuse. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lake County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 315 W. Main St., Tavares, FL 32778–3813

Description of Request: I have secured \$150,000 for Lake County, FL. The funding will be used by Lake County for a 800 MHz Radio System to serve the public safety needs and Emergency Operations Center of the County. An 800 MHz radio system will allow for the coordination of Lake County's emergency response services. The project would allow for the first time portable radio communications across the county. After the recent tornados that struck the County February 2, 2007, and in previous years Hurricanes, having an 800 MHz radio system will better equip the County's public safety personnel to respond and offer assistance. The project is supported by both the Sheriff's office and the municipalities in Lake County. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Corps of Engineers, Construction  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Jacksonville Port Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: 2831 Talleyrand Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32206–0005

Description of Request: I have secured \$3,349,000 for the Jacksonville Port Authority. The funding will be used to increase the Corps of Engineers' capability for completing Phase II dredging of the federal ship channel to the

Talleyrand Terminal. Prompt completion of this deepening project, which began seven years ago, is critically important to meet the needs of fully loaded cargo ships and for the continued commercial viability and operational safety of the Jacksonville Port. Navigation safety issues will be addressed in the vicinity of the Chaseville Turn where docked oil tankers are in close proximity to vessels attempting to navigate the restricted turning area. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Small Business Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Central Florida Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 3001 SW College Rd, Ocala, FL 34474–4415

Description of Request: I have secured \$100,000 for Central Florida Community College. The funding will be used to support an initiative to identify growth industries compatible with the research strengths of the University of Florida and the workforce training strengths of Central Florida Community College and Santa Fe Community College. The educational institutions, in cooperation with regional economic development entities, would develop a strategic plan to recruit and/or expand identified industry groups, such as those related to the bio-medical industry at the University of Florida. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Education, Higher Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Central Florida Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 3001 SW College Rd, Ocala, FL 34474–4415

Description of Request: I have secured \$238,000 for Central Florida Community College. The funding will be used by Central Florida Community College for expansion of the Public Policy Institute. The Public Policy Institute (PPI) of Marion County was established in 1999 as a non-profit, non-partisan citizen-based organization to provide a careful analysis of the issues and trends that shape and affect public policy. Its mission is to give the community a sense of hope and optimism by creating a broad base of community involvement in identifying, researching, and establishing dialogue on community issues, and then in recommending and helping to implement timely solutions. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Transportation, Airport Improvement Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Jacksonville Aviation Authority

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 18018, Jacksonville, FL 32229

Description of Request: I have secured \$722,000 for the Jacksonville Aviation Authority. The funding will be used to make taxiway improvements at Cecil Field. The project consists of the 2,000 foot parallel Taxiway Echo east of existing Runway 18L/36R and the 500

foot Taxiway A–1 connector, along with the 120,000 square foot apron. These improvements will open new areas of the airport east of the existing runway for new economic development and job creation. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman CLIFF STEARNS

Bill Number: FY 2009 Omnibus

Account: Department of Transportation, Transportation, Community, and System Preservation

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Marion County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 601 SE 25th Ave., Ocala, FL 34471

Description of Request: I have secured \$475,000 for Marion County, FL. The funding will be used for construction of 9.2 miles of a new 4-lane, rural, divided roadway (Bellevue Bypass) and improvements to State Road 35 (Baseline Road) in the Bellevue area. The new managed access 4-lane roadway begins south of the City of Bellevue at US 441 and loops around the city on the east to tie into Baseline Road north of the city at 92nd Place. Improvements to Baseline Road begin south of this intersection and include reconstruction of this 2-lane road to a 4-lane divided arterial up to CR 464. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, on March 6, 2009, I was absent for one rollcall vote. If I had been here, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote No. 109.

#### RECOGNITION OF MEADOW BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL'S 100% SENIOR CLASS REGISTRATION

#### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. RAHALL. I rise today in recognition of Meadow Bridge High School in Meadow Bridge, West Virginia. With encouragement from their principal, Al Martine, 100% of the senior class has submitted voter registration forms to the County Clerk in Fayetteville, West Virginia.

Meadow Bridge High School has an eight-year history of registering their entire senior class, and they are the only known school in West Virginia with such an accomplishment to call their own. Not only that, but Meadow Bridge High School was recently honored as a bronze level school in US News and World Report. They were singled out because every student, even the most disadvantaged, has standardized test scores that are above the state average. If that doesn't take hard work or doesn't deserve recognition here, I don't know what does.

Were he still with us today, I am certain West Virginia Senator Jennings Randolph, who proposed the 26th Amendment to our Constitution to lower the voting age to 18 in 1971, would be very proud of each and every student at Meadow Bridge High School. As your elected representative to Washington, I am especially moved by the faculty's efforts to get young people involved in the political process at a young age. By registering to vote, they have achieved the highest office in our land, that of a citizen.

West Virginians have a long, proud history of serving their country. It brings me great pleasure to be able to recognize the efforts of our youngest new voters as they continue in the grand tradition of their classmates, parents and neighbors who registered to vote before them. These students take great pride in doing their civic duty, and I look forward to having their voices heard at the polls come election season.

Let us take this moment to recognize the truly spectacular achievement they have attained with this milestone.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO HARRY SCHWARTZ BOOKSHOPS

#### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Milwaukee's landmark bookstore chain, Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops. After 82 years of business and service to the entire Greater Milwaukee community, the company will close its doors at the close of business on March 31, 2009.

The chain was founded two years before the Great Depression, in 1927, by Harry W. Schwartz, who opened his first shop on Downer Avenue. Mr. Schwartz soon became known for the books that he chose to sell. He championed then-controversial 20th-century authors such as William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway. His son, David, took over the business in 1972 and under the younger Schwartz's leadership the company added more stores. New stores were placed in neighborhoods where national chains could not build. Books were carefully selected to reflect local customer preferences and coffee and other soft items were offered. The company began mentoring and assisting other small bookstores including the Cultural Connection Bookstore.

Schwartz unleashed his biggest innovation, readings with big-name authors including President Barack Obama, then Senator Obama, with the introduction of his book *The Audacity of Hope*, in 2006. Schwartz Bookshops became known for their great author events throughout the national book industry. Schwartz Bookshops' parent company, Dickens Books Ltd., also began an operation that sells business books, which today is a separate division, 800-CEO-Read. Despite the advent of the big box booksellers, Schwartz prospered in the 1980s and 1990s. After the death of David Schwartz in 2004 his widow, Carol Grossmeyer, took over as president and his daughter, Rebecca Schwartz, became chairman of the company.

Booksellers now have competition not only from the national chains, but also from online

booksellers, digital books, and the economic downturn that affect how people both read and purchase books. Although the Schwartz brick and mortar Bookshops will close, two of the stores will continue operating under new owners. Ms. Grossmeyer and Ms. Schwartz will continue to run Dickens Books Ltd and the 800-CEO-Read Division which remains profitable.

Madam Speaker, my district and Greater Milwaukee will experience a profound loss with the closing of the Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops; I thank them for their immeasurable achievements and salute their legacy.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MICHAEL E. PRICKETT

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask the attention of the House today to pay recognition to a constituent of mine, Mr. Michael Prickett, and his steadfast service to his community.

Mr. Prickett has served as the Fire Chief of the Alexandria Fire Department since 1979. His 39 years of service have helped further strengthen the department as an institution the people of Calhoun County can rely upon to provide safety and peace of mind. On March 14th, Mr. Prickett's family and friends will gather to honor his service during a special retirement dinner.

I am proud to join the members of the Alexandria Fire Department in thanking Mr. Prickett for his service and wish him and his family the best at this important occasion to honor his dedication and leadership.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SCHOOL FOOD RECOVERY ACT OF 2009

#### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the School Food Recovery Act of 2009. The purpose of this legislation is simple: to keep excess school food out of the garbage and get it into our food banks.

Our Nation's food banks and food pantries are struggling to keep up with demand. On average, client visits are up more than 30 percent over the past year. Families in northern Virginia and all around the Nation are going hungry. Our food banks and food pantries are their last resort.

Consider that for a family earning \$45,000 a year, it costs an extra \$1,000 today to maintain the same food, gas, and basic good purchases compared to 2006—a 9.6% increase. That reality has led some families in my district who had been donating food in the past to now turn to the same pantries for food assistance.

Unfortunately, we are not doing enough to prevent the waste of perfectly good food as these families go hungry. According to a USDA report on waste in the National School Lunch Program, it was reported that an esti-

mated "30 million Americans were in danger of going hungry and 96 billion pounds of food were being wasted at the retail and food services level."

To address this, former Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman awarded twelve \$10,000 grants to school districts during the 1998–1999 school year to develop models to donate unused food to local food banks and food pantries and the results were published in a "best practices" manual in 1999. However, since the conclusion of the one-year grants, little has been done at the Federal level to encourage school districts to donate surplus food to food banks.

In 1993, Congress passed the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Act, which protects donors who give to food banks in good faith from all liability. This law has helped encourage many businesses and civic organizations to donate more and to build connections with food agencies.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about our school cafeterias. Far too few school districts have been willing to donate excess food, primarily due to administrative resistance and a misperception that Federal regulation doesn't allow it.

The School Food Recovery Act will clarify—once and for all—that schools are covered from liability under the Good Samaritan Act and will allow each school to authorize an employee who has the discretion to release excess school food to local food banks on a regular basis.

I believe this legislation will cut through the red tape and ensure that excess school food is used to feed the hungry, not to fill a school's dumpster. It only requires schools to identify local food banks and pantries, identify the employee authorized to release food to those agencies, and create a database of these contacts at each school that food banks can use to connect with these individuals.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this straightforward legislation to help feed the hungry.

#### FREEMAN IS NOT THE MAN FOR THE JOB

#### HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I would like to bring to my colleagues' attention the following letter I recently sent to President Obama regarding the appointment of former Ambassador Charles W. Freeman to serve as chair of the National Intelligence Council.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
*March 6, 2009.*

HON. BARACK H. OBAMA,  
*The President, The White House,*  
*Washington DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I write today to share my deep concern regarding the appointment of Chas W. Freeman Jr. as chairman of the National Intelligence Council.

Particularly disturbing is Mr. Freeman's position on the international advisory board of the China National Offshore Oil Corp. (CNOOC), which he has held since March 2004. The communist government of China,

along with other state-owned companies, are majority stakeholders in CNOOC. This connection would require Mr. Freeman to recuse himself from certain matters involving China.

The 2007 United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission's Classified Report to the Congress addresses Chinese activities in the areas of espionage, cyber warfare, and arms proliferation. In 2006 four of the computers in my Capitol Hill office were hacked. It was confirmed by the FBI that these attacks originated in the People's Republic of China. The economic stimulus plan recently rolled out by Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao includes a 14.9 percent increase in military spending. It is evident that China poses an increasing national security threat to the United States. How is national security policy enhanced by having a chairman of the NIC who must recuse himself from matters involving a regime which poses one of the most serious national security risks to the United States?

In an April 25 speech given by Mr. Freeman at the National War College Alumni Association, he described the March 2008 protests in Tibet as "a race riot." The Tibetan people have suffered for decades at the hands of the authoritarian Chinese government, and such a characterization of the March uprising is deeply insulting. I traveled to Tibet in 1997 where I heard endless accounts of violent oppression by the Chinese government. I spoke to Buddhist monks and nuns who recounted their experiences of torture and imprisonment in Tibet's notorious Draphchi Prison. Just last week, the Associated Press reported that a Tibetan monk was shot three times by Chinese security forces after he set himself on fire.

Additionally, CNOOC's substantial investment in Sudan's oil sector has served as the lifeline to the regime of President Omar al Bashir, recently indicted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes and crimes against humanity. Senator Sam Brownback and I traveled to Darfur in 2004, where we saw first hand the suffering and destruction that has taken place under the Bashir regime. We heard first hand accounts of women who were brutally abused at the hands of the janjaweed forces. During our visit we captured the haunting images of the terror and destruction, and we will share those photographs with your administration at your request. Mr. Freeman's appointment to this high level post undermines the policy of U.S. divestment from the genocidal regime of Sudan.

Most recently, Mr. Freeman served as president of the Middle East Policy Council, a think-tank funded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. On September 20, 2006, in an interview with the Saudi-US Relations Information Service, Mr. Freeman said that "thanks to the generosity of King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia we have managed to accumulate an endowment" for the Middle East Policy Council. According to filings with the Internal Revenue Service, Mr. Freeman drew an annual salary from the Middle East Policy Council. However, the foundation has never publicly released its list of contributors.

In his Pulitzer Prize winning book, *The Looming Tower*, Lawrence Wright states on page 170 that "Saudi Arabia, which constitutes only 1 percent of the world's Muslim population . . . supports 90 percent of the expenses of the entire faith," including "thousands of religious schools around the globe, staffed with Wahhabi imams and teachers." I have enclosed a copy of this book and strongly encourage you to read it. Wahhabi teachings exported by the Saudis have inspired a generation of young radicals that have proven themselves ready to take up arms in the

name of faith. Many experts believe that the notorious Taliban leader Mullah Omar was educated in a Saudi-funded radical madrassah. How can Mr. Freeman possibly be expected to confront this challenge head on after taking home years of paychecks from the Saudis?

The reprehensible regimes with which CNOOC does business does not end there. The company rebuffed public calls to withdraw from Burma in October 2007 after the ruling military junta opened fire on peaceful protestors in a movement known as the Saffron Revolution. CNOOC also has invested in Iran, a country which is actively seeking to build nuclear weapons and has vowed to "wipe Israel off the map." Such activities starkly contrast with the national security interests of the United States.

The evidence strongly suggests that Mr. Freeman is not the right person for this job and for the good of our country I urge you to reconsider your choice.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
*Member of Congress.*

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MAPLE TAPPING ACCESS PROGRAM ACT

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Maple Tapping Access Program (TAP) Act, which is designed to increase maple syrup production in the United States. It would also further economic development in rural areas like Northern and Central New York, which I am honored to represent.

The United States has the potential to greatly increase its maple syrup production. In fact, there are nearly two billion potential taps dispersed across 20 states. However, despite this wealth of resources, the United States currently imports four times as much maple syrup as is produced domestically. In fact, we only tap 7.5 million or one in every 250 maple trees. According to Cornell University, if the United States' maple industry increased its rate to just 2.1%, 42 million more trees could be tapped. This increased production would have an annual economic impact in excess of \$300 million.

In an effort to enhance U.S. maple syrup production, the Maple Tapping Access Program Act would direct the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to establish a public access program, for which \$20 million would be authorized annually. Through this program, State and tribal governments could apply for competitive grants to design and implement programs to encourage landowners to provide access to their land for maple tapping activities.

My friend, Mr. SCHUMER, is introducing the companion measure in the Senate. It is important to note that my legislation differs slightly. Specifically, my bill clarifies that participating landowners may provide access to their land for maple tapping purposes voluntarily or by lease or other means. Additionally, my version of this measure would allow states and tribes to use grant funds to encourage landowners to initiate or expand maple tapping activities on their land.

The Maple Tapping Access Program Act would provide the impetus necessary to stimu-

late an underdeveloped American maple industry and foster much-needed rural economic development. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to join with me to enact this important measure.

HONORING ROBERT JONES ALLEN

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 09, 2009*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Jones Allen in celebration of his recent 86th birthday. He is a remarkable man who, with passion and dedication, has worked tirelessly throughout his career to advance our knowledge of Antarctica and cartography.

Mr. Allen devoted his professional life to studying and learning about Antarctica while performing his cartographic tasks of studying, handling and compiling photographic materials and maps concerning Antarctica. Allen Peak, which sits on the northern edge of the Sentinel Range's main ridge, is named in his honor. Dr. Robert Bindschadler, one of our nation's foremost experts of the continent and a friend of Mr. Allen's, stated that "there is no one else that holds such broad and deep historical knowledge of Antarctic movements" and refers to Mr. Allen as his "Antarctic Encyclopedia." His words shed light on Robert Allen's importance to the scientific community.

Bob Allen's contributions to Antarctic science put him in a class all his own. There is no one else that holds such broad and deep historical knowledge of Antarctic measurements. He remembers who did what, when, where, what they saw and (most importantly) where to get the information. His recollections start with the first scientific expeditions to Antarctica in the 1940's and continue to the present day. Much of what he knows was never written down, making his anecdotal record absolutely unique. Often Bob is able to show us what we thought was "new" had been noted previously. That kind of expertise and knowledge is priceless.

Robert Allen began his career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Aerial Photo Lab. He served his country in the military's 656th Engineering Topography Battalion and later in the 11th Airborne Division. For over 50 years he worked at the U.S. Geological Survey.

His work on the mapping of the Antarctic region has proved invaluable to the scientific community. He has a long-time, intimate relationship with most of the over 1/2 million photographs as well as negatives in the U.S. Antarctic Mapping Photography collection. The Antarctic scientific community would, therefore, consult with him not only to help their expeditions avoid potentially dangerous areas, but also to pinpoint locations that would be conducive for their studies. In a time when satellites and computers were rudimentary instruments, Mr. Allen became the first to determine the speed of the Thwaites Glacier, the fastest moving ice stream in west Antarctica. His vast experience has led numerous explorers and scientists to call on him for answers and advice.

Mr. Allen's expertise is not limited to Antarctica. In the 1960's he helped create a map of Mars via satellite images. He also used photographs from the Apollo 6 mission to create

mosaic maps of the United States. He compiled maps of China and the Red Sea using satellite data.

Today Mr. Allen spends his time at the United States Antarctic Resource Center where he still amazes his co-workers with his ability to retrieve information from the early days of U.S. studies of Antarctica and then apply it to current studies. His devotion to studying this extraordinary region of our planet merits our praise and gratitude.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Allen for his 60 years of public service, for his accomplishments, and for all he has done to advance scientific understanding.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, due to illness, I unfortunately was unable to be present and to vote on legislation considered by the House on March 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2009.

On rollcall numbers 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 98, 99, 106, 108, and 109, had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

On rollcall numbers 97, 105, and 107, had I been present, I would have voted "no".

On rollcall number 104, had I been present, I would have voted "no". Though the Helping Families Save Act of 2009 (H.R. 1106) included some good provisions, the bill also included troubling bankruptcy provisions. On the amendments considered, had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcalls 101 and 102 and "no" on rollcall 100. Also, had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions (rollcall 103).

I regret that I did not have the opportunity to vote on these important measures.

#### HONORING MATTHEW C. GARCIA

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew C. Garcia a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew C. Garcia for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DENTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Denton Chamber of Commerce, which will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on April 21, 2009.

The Denton Chamber of Commerce is an alliance of businesses, professionals, and organizations working to support and promote the principles for a prosperous economic environment.

Established April 21, 1909, the Chamber has grown to involve over 860 members. In its 100 years of operation, the Chamber has a record of promoting, supporting and expanding the Denton business community. Small businesses have long benefited from the efforts of the Denton Chamber of Commerce and have also found it an avenue to give back to their community. Many members are not only successful in business, but also volunteer and serve on boards of local charity and community groups.

The Chamber has played a significant role in the community's economic health, establishing an Economic Development Partnership with the City of Denton focused on helping create new jobs, supporting existing career opportunities and expanding the property tax base. A prime example of this success was the partnership's work to attract the largest local employer, the Peterbilt Motors plant, and later, Peterbilt's division headquarters.

Helping in the efforts to secure the sites for the Denton State School, and the sites for FEMA's underground center and National Teleregistration facility, the Denton Chamber of Commerce's contributions have gone beyond just helping the business community.

With programs such as Leadership Denton, Chamber members have learned the inner workings of policy. It has worked to supplement communications with state and federal officials with the initiation of county wide events such as Denton County Day in Austin and the Washington Fly-In. A tribute to their role in community service and leadership development is evidenced by the dozens of members that have served on local city councils, school boards and in other elected positions.

It is with great pride that I stand here today to join others in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Denton Chamber of Commerce. I wish the membership, staff and board all the best and I am proud to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives.

#### SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY, RECIPIENT OF THE "SCHOLAR-PATRIOT AWARD"

#### HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to the Senior Senator from Massachusetts, EDWARD M. KENNEDY, and to the Amer-

ican Academy of Arts and Sciences which has just honored Senator KENNEDY with its "Scholar-Patriot Award."

Nearly 230 years ago in Cambridge, in what would become the Eighth Congressional District of Massachusetts, John Adams, James Bowdoin, John Hancock, and other "scholar-patriots" established the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Academy was created, during the American Revolution, to provide a forum for leaders from science, scholarship, business, public affairs, and the arts, to work together as citizens in support of a democratic republic. In the words of the Academy's charter, enacted in 1780, the "end and design of the institution is . . . to cultivate every art and science which may tend to advance the interest, honor, dignity, and happiness of a free, independent, and virtuous people."

Today, the Academy, still in Cambridge, flourishes as an independent policy research center. Its members remain true to the original mission, conducting multidisciplinary studies of complex and emerging problems. Current Academy research focuses on science and global security; social policy; the humanities and culture; and education.

On March 9, 2009, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences convened a meeting in Washington, D.C. on the topic of The Humanities in a Civil Society. As part of the program, the Academy announced the presentation of its Scholar-Patriot Award to the dean of our state's congressional delegation, Senator EDWARD M. KENNEDY. Throughout his career, Sen. KENNEDY has been a stalwart champion of the humanities. I am proud to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the citation from the Academy, and I congratulate my friend and colleague for this well-deserved recognition. "The American Academy bestows its Scholar-Patriot Award on EDWARD M. KENNEDY for his extraordinary service to the Academy, the community, and the nation.

"For four decades you have been a fierce defender of the ideals of opportunity, equity, and justice. Master of quiet collaboration and inspired oratory, you have achieved an unparalleled legislative record. Your efforts to insure quality education and health care for all Americans, including your leadership on the Americans with Disabilities Act, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and The Elementary and Secondary Education Act, have earned you the respect of men and women across the political spectrum. From your first major bill on immigration reform to your recent call for a renewed commitment to community service, you have championed an open and inclusive society. To your family and the nation, you are a profile of courageous leadership, the guardian of a dream that lives on.

"The founding members of the American Academy were pragmatic visionaries, anticipating the needs of a young republic for both wise governance and fresh ideas. You follow in their footsteps as a Scholar-Patriot for our time. Asserting that "our future does not belong to those who are content with today," you have fulfilled the Academy's historic mission, translating knowledge into action and celebrating the life of the mind in service to the community, the nation, and the world."

RECOGNIZING WEN CHYAN

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Wen Chyan, from the 26th District of Texas, who was the winner of the Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science, and Technology.

Wen Chyan's curiosity about chemistry was sparked by his parents, both scientists, at an early age. Wen's astuteness has earned him recognition from the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad, U.S.A. Biology Olympiad, and the Texas Science and Engineering Fair. His ambition and desire to contribute to medical advancements prompted him to create an antimicrobial coating for medical devices, a development that has the potential to save lives. Wen is the first TAMS student to advance to such a high level in this competition, which features the research of more than 1,000 students. Wen's hard work has earned him high recognition and a \$100,000 scholarship.

I am proud to recognize Wen Chyan for the stunning research he has accomplished, the award he has received, and the promise he holds for the future of American science. It is a privilege to represent Mr. Chyan in the 26th District of Texas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE  
"THOMASINA E. JORDAN INDIAN  
TRIBES OF VIRGINIA FEDERAL  
RECOGNITION ACT"

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, in 2006 representatives and leaders of Virginia's Native American tribes left their communities and flew to England to participate in ceremonies that were a prelude to the 400th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in America. Some of the distinguished Virginia residents who made this trip are the blood descendants and leaders of the surviving seven tribes that once were a part of the Great Powhatan Confederacy that initially helped sustain the colonists during their difficult first years at Jamestown. Virginia's best known Indian, Pocahontas, traveled to England in 1617 with her husband John Rolfe and was received by English royalty. She died a year later of smallpox and is buried in the chapel of the parish church in Gravesend, England.

Two years ago, this nation celebrated the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown. But it was not a celebration for Native American descendants of Pocahontas, for they have yet to be recognized by our federal government. Unlike most Native American tribes that were officially recognized when they signed peace treaties with the federal government, Virginia's six Native American tribes made their peace with the Kings of England. Most notable among these was the Treaty of

1677 between these tribes and King Charles II. This treaty has been recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia every year for the past 331 years when the Governor accepts tribute from the tribes in a ceremony now celebrated at the State Capitol. I had the honor of attending last November what is understood to be the longest celebrated treaty in the United States.

The forefathers of the tribal leaders who gathered last Thanksgiving in Richmond were the first to welcome the English, and during the first few years of settlement, ensured their survival. As was the case for most Native American tribes, as the settlement prospered and grew, the tribes suffered. Those who resisted quickly became subdued, were pushed off their historic lands, and, up through much of the 20th Century, were denied full rights as U.S. citizens. Despite their devastating loss of land and population, the Virginia tribes survived, preserving their heritage and their identity. Their story of survival spans four centuries of racial hostility and coercive state and state-sanctioned actions.

The Virginia tribes' history, however, diverges from that of most Native Americans in two unique ways. The first explains why the Virginia tribes were never recognized by the federal government; the second explains why congressional action is needed today. First, by the time the federal government was established in 1789, the Virginia tribes were in no position to seek recognition. They had already lost control of their land, withdrawn into isolated communities and stripped of most of their rights. Lacking even the rights granted by the English Kings, and our own Bill of Rights, federal recognition was nowhere within their reach.

The second unique circumstance for the Virginia tribes is what they experienced at the hands of the state government during the first half of the 20th Century. It has been called a "paper genocide." At a time when the federal government granted Native Americans the right to vote, Virginia's elected officials adopted racially hostile laws targeted at those classes of people who did not fit into the dominant white society. The fact that some of Virginia's ruling elite claimed to be blood descendants of Pocahontas in their view meant that no one else in Virginia could make a claim they were Native American and a descendant of Pocahontas' people. To do so would mean that Virginia's ruling elite were what they decreed all non-whites to be: part of "the inferior Negroid race."

With great hypocrisy, Virginia's ruling elite pushed policies that culminated with the enactment of the Racial Integrity Act of 1924. This act directed state officials, and zealots like Walter Plecker, to destroy state and local courthouse records and reclassify in Orwellian fashion all non-whites as "colored." It targeted Native Americans with a vengeance, denying Native Americans in Virginia their identity.

To call oneself a "Native American" in Virginia was to risk a jail sentence of up to one year. In defiance of the law, members of Virginia's tribes traveled out of state to obtain marriage licenses or to serve their country in wartime. The law remained in effect until it was struck down in federal court in 1967. In that intervening period between 1924 and 1967, state officials waged a war to destroy all

public and many private records that affirmed the existence of Native Americans in Virginia. Historians have affirmed that no other state compares to Virginia's efforts to eradicate its citizens' Indian identity.

All of Virginia's state-recognized tribes have filed petitions with the Bureau of Acknowledgment seeking federal recognition. But it is a very heavy burden the Virginia tribes will have to overcome, and one fraught with complications that officials from the bureau have acknowledged may never be resolved in their lifetime. The acknowledgment process is already expensive, subject to unreasonable delays, and lacking in dignity. Virginia's paper genocide only further complicates these tribes' quest for federal recognition, making it difficult to furnish corroborating state and official documents and aggravating the injustice already visited upon them.

It wasn't until 1997, when Governor George Allen signed legislation directing state agencies to correct state records, that the tribes were given the opportunity to correct official state documents that had deliberately been altered to list them as "colored." The law allows living members of the tribes to correct their records, but the law cannot correct the damage done to past generations or recover documents that were purposely destroyed during the "Plecker Era."

In 1999, the Virginia General Assembly adopted a resolution calling upon Congress to enact legislation recognizing the Virginia tribes. I am pleased to have honored that request, and beginning in 2000 and in subsequent sessions, Virginia's Senators and I have introduced legislation to recognize the Virginia tribes.

There is no doubt that the Chickahominy, the Eastern Chickahominy, the Monacan, the Nansemond, the Rappahannock and the Upper Mattaponi tribes exist. These tribes have existed on a continuous basis since before the first European settlers stepped foot in America. They are here with us today.

I know there is resistance in Congress to grant any Native American tribe federal recognition. And I can appreciate how the issue of gambling and its economic and moral dimensions has influenced many Members' perspectives on tribal recognition issues. The six Virginia tribes are not seeking federal legislation so that they can build casinos. They find this assertion offensive to their moral beliefs. They are seeking federal recognition because it is an urgent matter of justice and because elder members of their tribes, who were denied a public education and the economic opportunities available to most Americans, are suffering and should be entitled to the federal health and housing assistance available to federally recognized tribes.

To underscore this point, the legislation I am introducing includes language approved last session by the House of Representatives that would prevent the tribes from engaging in gaming on their federal land even if everyone else in Virginia were allowed to engage in Class III casino-type gaming.

In the name of decency, fairness and humanity, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and bring closure to centuries of injustice Virginia's Native American tribes have experienced.

HONORING AARON R. KLEINMEYER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron R. Kleinmeyer a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron R. Kleinmeyer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MAYOR LYNDIA BELL OF THE CITY  
OF HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman and friend from Florida's 25th District, Mayor Lyndia Bell of the City of Homestead. She was elected Mayor in November 2007 and serves as Homestead's first woman mayor in the city's 94-year history. Prior to this accomplishment, she served four years on the city council from 2003–2007 and was Vice Mayor for two years.

Born in Hollywood, Florida, Mayor Bell was raised in South Florida and attended Miami-Dade College. She has been a resident of Homestead since 1979 and understands the needs of the diverse community she represents. She has a strong personal belief in volunteerism and service, and is completely dedicated to our community. What most stands out about Mayor Bell is the energy she puts into her work. Her positive attitude is what enables her to get things done and encourages others to join her in working towards achieving the goals she has laid out for the City of Homestead.

In 2004, Mayor Bell was chosen as the recipient of the Athena Award from the Greater Homestead/Florida City Chamber of Commerce and was a finalist for the Florida League of Cities' Councilperson of the Year Award in 2007.

In addition to putting the needs of our community first, Mayor Bell also makes life at a home a priority as a dedicated wife to husband Mark, and loving mother and grandmother to three children and seven grandchildren.

Mayor Lyndia Bell exemplifies the true meaning of public service and does so by always prioritizing the needs of others first. As we celebrate Women's History Month, I ask you to join me in congratulating Mayor Bell for her invaluable service and contributions to our community.

HONORING ARIZONA PIONEER AND  
NATIONAL TREASURE MS. CELE  
PETERSON**HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a Tucson, Arizona icon, a state of Arizona pioneer and a national treasure—Ms. Cele Peterson. Cele Peterson, a visionary and an activist, will turn 100 on March 14, 2009 and she is still busy as a catalyst for business, cultural, environmental, and children's organizations in Tucson, Arizona. She grew up in the wildest days of Bisbee, a little mining town in Arizona close to the border with Mexico. She tells stories about watching skirmishes of the Mexican Revolution from high on the hills across the valley, sitting at the knee of an old "mule skinner" listening to tales of the West, and of her brother dynamiting their backyard to build a garden for their mother. Cele maintains that her strength and persistence is due to the 365 steps she climbed up and down the steep hills of Bisbee to and from school every day.

At fifteen, she graduated from high school and began attending the University of Arizona. She went on to Sullins College in Bristol, Virginia and George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Cele worked at the Library of Congress in the manuscript division in the late 1920's. She was sent to Mexico City where she continued her work of translating old Spanish manuscripts pertaining to the history of the Southwest.

In 1931, when Cele opened a dress shop in Tucson, she began a career that integrated her love of history, creativity as a designer, business acumen and intelligence with her values and desires to improve the community. Today, Cele will still tell you that her most important priority always was her love for her husband Tom and their five children. Her love today continues to be centered on her on children, her 14 grandchildren and her 10 great grandchildren.

For the last 78 years, Cele Peterson Fashion's has grown and changed with the times, yet Cele claims she has never worked a day in her life. She loves what she does, and has adventures and honors that reflect her enthusiasm. In the 1940's she initiated a daily radio broadcast from her downtown store. In the 1950's she was selected as a young American designer to participate in the Merrimack fashion show at New York's Metropolitan Opera. Her denim tailored "Station Wagon Togs" drew international recognition. Her designs celebrated Arizona's special resources: copper, cotton, climate, and cattle.

Along the way, Cele founded what is now known as the Tucson Children's Museum, was a co-founder of the Casa de Los Niños, the first crisis nursery in the United States, and was very involved in the beginnings of the Arizona Theater Company and the Tucson Opera Company. She was the instigator of a non-profit organization that celebrates Tucson's Birthday and culture every August. Cele created the idea for Kids International Neighborhood, a non-profit organization that promotes cultural understanding, acceptance and respect among children of the world.

Cele served on University of Arizona boards for the College of Humanities, the School of

Architecture and the Steele Memorial Children's Research Foundation. She also served on the boards of the Tucson Trade Bureau, Tucson/Mexico Sister Cities, the Tucson Local Development Corporation, the Industrial Development Authority, the Tucson Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, Angel Charity for Children, the Tucson Community Foundation and the Tucson Downtown Alliance.

Over the years her achievements have been recognized and honored with numerous awards including: the City of Hope Woman of the Year Award, the Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Founders Award, the University of Arizona College of Agriculture Distinguished Citizen Award, the YWCA's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Ernst & Young/INC. Magazine 1995 National Socially Responsible Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Cele was named a Doña de Los Descendientes del Presidio de Tucson, the group of women responsible for maintaining Tucson's historic culture. Cele received a Crystal Apple from the Metropolitan Education Commission and was honored as one of the Four Women Who Helped Build Tucson by the Concerned Media Professionals. In 2004, the America-Israel Friendship League honored her with a Cycle of Life Award. In the same year she was named Grand Marshal of the Tucson Rodeo Parade. In 2007 the Tucson Pima Public Library designated the Cele Peterson Arizona Collection, as an ongoing resource of local history.

As of February 2009 Cele is working on a youth apprentice program for the Rodeo Parade Committee, actively recruiting additions for the Cele Peterson Collection at the library, and encouraging the exchange of cultural ideas for children through the distribution of I Love You in Many Languages, a Kids International Neighborhood book. Cele is also continuing her involvement with a coalition of environmental groups to restore and preserve native growth and wildflowers on a centrally located urban lot.

Clearly Cele Peterson is committed to finding beauty, and changing the world. She often quotes her mother, "Look into that field out there. You'll see whatever you want to see. You can see wildflowers and beauty or waste and junk." Cele has always made a clear decision to look for beauty. In the process, she became a community legend.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARWAN  
BURGAN**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Marwan Burgan, community activist, human rights leader, Democratic Party stalwart and dear personal friend. Marwan's long struggle with cancer has ended, but the contributions he made to Northern Virginia, particularly within the Arab American community, will continue as a lasting tribute to his life.

By his own example of civic engagement and leadership, Marwan served as a remarkable model for other first-generation Palestinian Americans. In 2008, he founded PACE



(Project for American Civic Engagement), to facilitate placement of underrepresented young people into Congress as interns and staff. His devotion to public service and efforts to politically empower young people, especially in the Arab American community, has charted a course for a next generation of engaged, enlightened and energetic leaders.

A lifelong civil servant, Marwan worked in Congress for eight years, first as a Foreign Affairs Legislative Assistant, then Legislative Director, and finally as Chief of Staff for former Congressman Mervyn Dymally. Later in his career, he dived into local government, serving as Chief Aide to Penny Gross, a member of the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County.

Ever since moving to Northern Virginia in the late 1980's, Marwan was heavily involved in local politics and the Democratic Party in Virginia. In his home county of Fairfax, he served as Vice-Chair of Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) for Voter Registration, chaired the Local Affairs Committee for FCDC and until his death, served on the Steering Committee for the Democratic Party of Virginia.

On the night he passed away, Marwan was planning to attend a dinner with Speaker PELOSI and Northern Virginia leaders at my home. He was feeling especially weak that day and had to decline. I wish he had been able to come. Despite his pain, it would have brought a smile to his lips to hear the Speaker explain how close we are to achieving universal healthcare and economic opportunity for all Americans and the renewed hope for peace throughout the world—issues he had spent his life fighting for.

Madam Speaker, when someone dies so young, it's important that we bear in mind the real tragedy of life is not at death but what dies inside of us while we live. In that sense Marwan lived a long and fruitful life. He never lost his passion, courage or commitment for justice and human rights. Without Marwan its now up to us to stand up and speak out all the louder for what he cared about: dignity of all human beings, the end of the violence and oppression which in many parts of the world is taken for granted, and the love of each other as precious instruments of our God.

HONORING BENJAMIN P. CARR

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Benjamin P. Carr a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Benjamin has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Benjamin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Benjamin P. Carr for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN HONOR OF MAREYJOYCE GREEN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mareyjoyce Green, a profoundly respected and influential member of the Greater Cleveland Community, and in recognition of her dedication to civic engagement, education and the advancement of women.

Dr. Mareyjoyce Green earned her undergraduate degree from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, where she double majored in Education and Sociology. Prior to continuing her education in dance on a scholarship from the University of Wyoming at Laramie, she married her college sweetheart, Charles Green, and began her career as a teacher in local schools. The couple later moved to Cleveland where Dr. Green taught dance and earned her PhD from Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), with a focus on the sociology of poverty. Dr. Green has taught at a number of local universities including the Ash-tabula Branch of Kent State University and Tri-C. Her ability to create unique curricula earned her an appointment by the Chair of CRWUs Sociology Department to head Ohio State University's (OSU) Sociology Department in Lakewood in 1962. Four years later, she became the first woman to head Cleveland State University's (CSU) Sociology Department.

During her tenure at CSU, Mareyjoyce established a number of groundbreaking programs that had a profound effect on both the students of CSU and the residents of the Greater Cleveland Community. Her commitment to social issues manifested in the establishment of Push to Achievement, a program she developed with a fellow professor, Roberta Steinbacher. The program was formed as a partnership between the Cuyahoga County Department of Human Services and the Urban Affairs College of CSU and enabled residents who were receiving public assistance to earn college degrees. Additionally, she co-founded WomensSpace; and has served as Director of the CSU Women's Comprehensive Program for twenty years—the only such program in Northeast Ohio that offers Women's Studies as a major. Dr. Green has tirelessly dedicated her personal and professional time in order to ensure that women obtain the necessary resources to earn advanced degrees and emerge as leaders in their communities.

Dr. Mareyjoyce Green's ability to mobilize the community and to advocate for the social welfare of others has been manifested in the various leadership roles she has played and has served as an undeniable source of inspiration to all those working for social justice. Upon the occasion of her retirement earlier this year as Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Women's Comprehensive Program, the Department of Sociology at CSU is establishing the annual Mareyjoyce Green Graduate Assistantship.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the leadership and outstanding achievements of Dr. Mareyjoyce Green for her work in both the Greater Cleveland Community and at Cleveland State University.

HONORING JUSTIN RICHARD WHEELER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Justin Richard Wheeler a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Justin has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Justin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Justin Richard Wheeler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE FLIGHT CREW OF DELTA CONNECTION FLIGHT 5202

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. On February 12, 2009, in the heart of Black History Month, four African-American women accomplished a feat which has never before been performed. They were the first all-female, African-American flight crew to operate a flight in the United States. These women truly are an inspiration to all of us, and I am so honored and pleased to recognize the crew of Delta Connection Flight 5202: Captain Rachelle Jones, First Officer Stephanie Grant, and flight attendants Diana Galloway and Robin Rogers.

When these women operated a flight from Atlanta, Georgia, to Nashville, Tennessee, and the return flight back to Atlanta, they had no idea that they would be making history. Captain Jones is one of only a handful of female African-American pilots in the country, and after her first-officer became sick and was replaced with First Officer Grant, Captain Jones knew that this flight was going to be special. Together these women have positively challenged our ideas of what it means to be in aviation in modern America.

It is important to realize, however, that this feat is merely the extension of a legacy of black female pilots which began with Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman. Born in Atlanta, Texas, to a poor background, Bessie Coleman overcame numerous obstacles to show the world that a Black woman can indeed be a pilot. After realizing that no American flight school would train her, she studied French and went to Europe to train at a foreign institute. In June of 1961, she became the first African-American woman in the world to obtain a pilot's license.

Let us applaud the efforts of these heroes who have paved the way for African-American women in aviation. From Bessie Coleman to the modern day flight crew of Delta Connection Flight 5202, barriers are being broken to



assure that our daughters have the opportunity to truly become whatever they wish to be. I am proud to recognize the accomplishments of these women and we are all honored by their efforts.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE "LABELING EDUCATION AND NUTRITION ACT OF 2009"

**HON. JIM MATHESON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. MATHESON. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Rep. FRED UPTON to introduce the "Labeling Education and Nutrition Act of 2009".

I am introducing this legislation so we can move toward providing consumers with key nutritional information they seek while hopefully providing restaurants with a workable framework to deliver this information to their customers. This legislation is a bipartisan effort to address nutritional labeling in this Congress. Senators CARPER and MURKOWSKI will introduce the companion bill in the coming days. With the introduction of the LEAN Act in both chambers, I believe we have an opportunity to have a constructive national conversation about uniform nutrition labeling requirements and standards.

Since 1994, the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act (NLEA) has required food manufacturers to provide nutrition information on nearly all packaged foods. However, the NLEA exempts restaurants. Due to this exemption, states, cities and counties have acted to provide nutritional information to consumers. This has led to at least 20 states introducing varying degrees of labeling requirement legislation in 2009.

From New York City to the state of California, more and more cities, counties, and states are passing differing laws mandating that chain restaurants put calories and other nutritional information on menus and menu boards. The result of this increasing state activity is a patchwork of regulation that can be confusing to the consumer and is burdensome to restaurant chains.

The LEAN Act requires restaurants and grocery stores that serve prepared foods and have 20 or more locations to disclose calories for each menu item so that consumers can access this information before making a meal choice. Under this bill, calories will be posted directly on the menu, menu board or in one of the approved alternative ways, such as a menu insert or a sign directly next to the menu board.

As we see in our own lives and daily eating habits, consumers increasingly choose to eat in restaurants. According to a 2009 Forecast report by the National Restaurant Association, Americans are looking for healthier options when they dine out. In my home state of Utah, restaurant jobs represent about 8% of the employment. American adults buy a meal or a snack from a restaurant 5 times per week on average and spend 48% of their food budget on food away from home, almost \$1078 per person annually. Unfortunately, we have also seen the toll diseases such as obesity and diabetes have taken on society. By providing nutritional information, individuals with special

dietary needs will be able to make the right nutritional decisions for them regarding caloric intake or sodium levels.

I appreciate the interest and leadership my colleagues have demonstrated on this issue in the past. I believe this legislation represents a compromise effort that will allow consumers to make informed decisions while also providing for greater individual responsibility in dietary choices. Finally, I hope my colleagues will work with me on this piece of legislation and I look forward to working in a bipartisan way to build upon this legislative proposal.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration—Health Facilities and Services  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Saint Mary's Health Care

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Jefferson Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Description of Request: Provide \$143,000 for an electronic medical records initiative for the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Physicians will have real-time access to electronic records before, during, and after the ICU stay. The result will be increased patient safety and reduced errors. The technology improves care by supporting real-time access to cross-disciplinary patient results and evidenced-based information for clinical decisions. Funding will support labor, hardware and software costs.

#### TRIBUTE TO JULIA RANSOHOFF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding young student, researcher, and scientist, Julia Ransohoff. A senior at Menlo-Atherton High School in my Congressional District, Julia was recently named an Intel Science Talent Search Finalist. She is one of only 40 finalists given this prestigious award out of over 1,600 students who entered the competition.

Julia was recently recognized by the Society for Science and the Public for her groundbreaking research entitled "The Gender Divide: Does Donor Gender Matter for Mesenchymal Stem Cell Transplantation?" She completed this project as a student investigator at the Robbins Laboratory of Cardiothoracic Transplantation at the Stanford School of Medicine.

While working at the Stanford Institutes of Medicine Summer Research (SIMR) Program, Julia received the Jessica Lynn Saal Fellowship, which is awarded for exemplary perform-

ance and achievement in the summer program.

Not only is this young woman an accomplished scientist and researcher, she is a philanthropist and community activist. Julia is a leader in promoting peer health education. Along with her sister, Katie Ransohoff, Julia created an online peer education program for teens to prevent bullying and promote healthy relationships. She also works to encourage teen literacy through the global reading and writing initiative, Teenlit. Julia is a founder of the "Running for a Reason Club" at her high school, which raises money for end of life care for children.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring an extraordinary young American who represents the spirit of innovation and ingenuity that has guided our country for so many generations.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to state how I would have voted on March 6, 2009. With the expectation the Senate would pass the omnibus appropriations bill, and it would not be necessary to pass a continuing resolution on Friday, I returned home to Houston on Thursday night to attend meetings in our district.

On Rollcall vote No. 107, to approve the journal, I would have voted "Yea."

On Rollcall vote No. 108, on the motion to recommit on H.J. Res. 38, I would have voted "Aye."

On Rollcall vote No. 109, on the final passage of H.J. Res. 38, I would have voted "Aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF JEFF COOPER:  
GULF WAR VETERAN, FATHER,  
HERO

**HON. WALTER B. JONES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sgt. Jeff Cooper (Ret.), a North Carolina resident and a U.S. Army Veteran.

The Cooper family was recently chosen by the ABC television show Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, as the recipients of a new home. They have been living in a deteriorating double-wide trailer that is not only uncomfortable, but also is not suitable for the disabled members of their family. With the help of Edenton Builders, Inc. and thousands of volunteers from northeastern North Carolina, their home will be rebuilt in just one week. On March 13th, when the Cooper family returns home to Jamesville, North Carolina, from their vacation here in Washington, D.C., they will be welcomed into their new home.

Madam Speaker, Sgt. Cooper (Ret.) is someone who truly deserves this honor. He has earned several medals of honor for his service as an Army Combat Medic in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. I remember

that when my father, Congressman Walter B. Jones, Sr., passed away, Sgt. Cooper (Ret.) paid him the great respect of placing one of the medals he had earned on my father's casket. I will always remember this meaningful gesture and kind display of appreciation for my father's service.

Unfortunately, Sgt. Cooper's (Ret.) service on behalf of our nation left him with symptoms of Gulf War Syndrome; he suffers from multiple sclerosis as well as serious immune disorders. Due to these illnesses, he is now confined to a wheelchair. Since he returned from combat, Cooper has been a tireless advocate for his fellow veterans. He has lobbied the North Carolina General Assembly for a special license plate honoring Gulf War veterans and has become an outspoken supporter of rights for the disabled.

Sgt. Cooper (Ret.) deserves to be commended not only for his service to our nation and his fellow veterans, but also for the acts of heroism he has demonstrated within his own family. When his young son Aaron was run over by a garbage truck two years ago, he used his medic skills to save his son's life, though Aaron still lost most of his right arm and has undergone several surgeries since. Cooper has served as a role model to his children, as his daughter Windy has followed her father's example by signing up for medical lab technician training with the Army National Guard.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to offer my congratulations to the family of Sgt. Jeff Cooper (Ret.), a special person whose service to his nation and fellow veterans has made him well-deserving of this new home and special honor.

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ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT COM-  
PANY'S (ATC) OPERATION OF  
THE CITY'S DASH BUS SYSTEM

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Alexandria Transit Company's (ATC) Operation of the City's DASH Bus System. DASH stands for Driving Alexandrians Safely Home.

Back during the early 1980s, Alexandria Mayor Charles "Chuck" Beatley had a vision

of a local bus system that would serve the transit needs of the Alexandria community and provide high quality transit service for its residents, workers, and visitors.

Mayor Beatley could have done no better than to name Mr. William B. "Bill" Hurd as the first chairman of the Alexandria Transit Company. In Mr. Hurd, Mayor Beatley found not only a person who shared his vision of a new transit service, but also a supremely competent administrator who worked tirelessly for the next 22 years to create and sustain the DASH service. During his tenure as chairman, he delivered safe and reliable service with clean buses and friendly, courteous drivers.

Today, ATC is recognized nationally and throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia for the service it provides and has won many outstanding achievement awards over the years, including the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) System Safety Award for five consecutive years, the APTA Public Transportation System Outstanding Achievement Award, the Governor's Transportation Safety Award, the APTA first place AdWheels Marketing Award for innovative and creative marketing efforts for four years, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) Outstanding Urban Public Transportation System Award, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) Innovative Program Award for six years, and the Virginia Transit Association (VTA) Outstanding Public Transportation Marketing Award for the "Dash About" service and "DASHing Around Alexandria" campaign. ATC was also recognized three years in a row by the Alexandria community as one of the top five city services for quality.

Today DASH continues to provide clean, safe, affordable and reliable service every day to thousands of commuters, city residents, and visitors, but it has also grown to meet the needs of a growing city and the changing times. Over the past 25 years ridership has grown by more than 330 percent. Annual ridership has eclipsed four million. Fourteen thousand people ride DASH everyday and 10,000 ride on weekends. Service has grown from 582,000 service miles in the first full year of service in 1985 to more than 1.5 million service miles today.

Alexandria has many amenities as a charming, livable community; its historic homes and gardens, its street side restaurants and shops, the Potomac waterfront and its engaged, civic-minded citizenry. DASH contributes to Alexan-

dria's high quality of life by preserving the city's livability, mitigating traffic, improving circulation and mobility throughout the City, and providing easier access to local businesses, retail and employment centers, residential developments, and the regional Metrorail and the Virginia Railway Express commuter rail systems.

And as we begin to focus on the environmental challenges of air pollution and global warming, DASH has a key roll to play in promoting a less carbon intense alternative to the automobile. To demonstrate its commitment to a greener, eco-friendly city, the new DASH building under construction will be a LEED Certified Silver building.

I salute ATC and DASH for twenty-five years of superb service. I also salute its employees and the Board of Directors, for their contributions and efforts to improve public transportation service throughout the City, for their achievements that have been recognized both nationally and by the Commonwealth of Virginia, and in providing the highest quality of service to Alexandria.

I wish them a successful future.

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HONORING DEREK JAMES  
STRICKLAND

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 9, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Derek James Strickland a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Derek has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Derek has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Derek James Strickland for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## MARCH 11

10 a.m.

## Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Energy.

SD-608

## Judiciary

## Constitution Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties to examine S. J.Res. 7 and H. J.Res. 21, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to the election of Senators.

SH-216

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine violent Islamist extremism, focusing on al-Shabaab recruitment in American.

SD-342

## Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine voter registration, focusing on assessing current problems.

SR-301

10:30 a.m.

## Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) accountability and oversight, focusing on achieving transparency.

SD-106

## MARCH 12

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation regarding siting of electricity transmission lines, including increased federal siting authority and regional transmission planning.

SD-366

## Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2009 for tribal priorities.

SD-628

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine legislative presentations of veterans' service organizations.

SD-106

10 a.m.

## Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine sustainable transportation solutions, focusing on investing in transit to meet 21st century challenges.

SD-538

## Budget

To hold hearings to examine the President's fiscal year 2010 budget and revenue proposals.

SD-608

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine climate science, focusing on empowering our response to climate change.

SR-253

## Finance

To hold hearings to examine workforce issues in health care reform, focusing on assessing the present and preparing for the future.

SD-215

## Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 49, to help Federal prosecutors and investigators combat public corruption by strengthening and clarifying the law, and the nomination of Dawn Elizabeth Johnsen, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of David J. Hayes, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to markup certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## MARCH 17

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine United States Southern Command, United States Northern Command, United States Africa Command, and United States Transportation Command.

SH-216

## MARCH 18

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

334, Cannon Building

10 a.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the National Academy of Science's report Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward.

SD-226

## MARCH 19

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine United States Pacific Command, United States Strategic Command, and United States Forces Korea.

SH-216

10 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine cybersecurity, focusing on assessing our vulnerabilities and developing an effective defense.

SR-253

## MARCH 25

9:30 a.m.

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine State-of-the-Art information technology (IT) solutions for Veterans' Affairs benefits delivery.

SR-418

2:30 p.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

## Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on NextGen and the benefits of modernization.

SR-253